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British Spy on Reds' Dirty Tactics

By Adrian Berry
Of The Herald Tribune Staff

Greville Wynne, British business man released by the Russians in April in a cold war spy trade, admitted here yesterday his Communist interrogators "almost broke me" during his pre-trial incarceration in a Moscow prison.

"They've got many dirty methods," Mr. Wynne, who served nearly a year of a Soviet-imposed eight-year sentence, told a reporter aboard the Queen Elizabeth before sailing for home after a four-week recuperation cruise to the Caribbean and New York.

His wife, Mrs. Sheila Wynne, said she learned one of the methods used by the Russians was to withhold parcels she sent her husband while he was in prison unless he promised his interrogators he "would do as they asked."

Although Mr. Wynne refused to give details of his treatment by the Russians, his bitter outbursts against the Communists yesterday gave some hint of its severity:

"The Communist cancer is spreading," he almost shouted, passing a hand over his forehead. "They haven't

changed at all; they're still fighting the bloody revolution. They have quite different ideas about treating people from what they have in America and Britain."

"At my trial, as you know, I pleaded guilty with reservations," Mr. Wynne said, "but I had nothing on my conscience."

Had he been accorded proper legal rights before and during his Moscow trial in May, 1963?

"The only rights I had were those given me by Russian law," he replied.

Mr. Wynne was reticent on his relationship with Oleg Penkovsky, the Russian scientific aid who was tried with him and shot. The Briton was accused by the Russians of helping Penkovsky pass information back to the West.

"Yes, I knew Penkovsky," Mr. Wynne said, adding: "I may be writing a book about all this when I get home, but at the moment I prefer to say nothing."

Asked if he had been told by the British Foreign Office to remain silent, he retorted: "It is a free man's right to say nothing, if he chooses."

His remarks were in contrast to those he uttered at

the trial. At that time he testified that he had been pressured into working with Penkovsky by two Foreign Office men named Ackroyd and King, who successfully "commanded" and "threatened" him.

Mr. Wynne, now 45, managing director of Mobile Exhibitions, Ltd., was arrested in Hungary in November, 1962, by Communist secret police. Despite strong protests by Lord Home, then British Foreign Secretary and now Prime Minister Douglas-Home, he was removed to Moscow for trial.

He was exchanged by the Russians in Berlin April 22 for Gordon Lonsdale, alias Conan Trofimovich Molody, who was jailed by the British in March, 1961, for masterminding a spy ring concerned with British underwater weapon experiments.

The British Government has always denied Mr. Wynne was a spy. It was said in April in some British circles that the Wynne-Lonsdale exchange, made on account of Mr. Wynne's deteriorating health, was a mistake in view of Lonsdale's formidable skills.

Mr. Wynne reportedly

collapsed at his London home and was hospitalized soon after his return from Russian imprisonment.

The Wynne said yesterday they were on vacation so that Mr. Wynne could recover

from "general nervous exhaustion." Mr. Wynne, who looked fit, said:

"I have plans to travel, but not behind the Iron Curtain, because I don't think I'll be welcome there."